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(c) whether there is any difference in the date of birth recorded in the service register and that entered in the History of Services; if so, how the mistake occurred and who was responsible for the same; and

(d) what action the Government propose to take against the persons responsible for the mistake?

A.—(a) Yes. Mr. Gilbert has been given an extension of service by Government in the interests of the public service.
(b) The date in Mr. Gilbert's service register is 21st July 1873. Government have no information regarding the date given by Mr. Gilbert when he was first employed by Government.
(c) The date in the History of Services is the 21st July 1874. The history is compiled by the Accountant-General and Government have no information as to who was responsible for the mistake.
(d) Does not arise.

Finance

Estimates of revenue and expenditure from the various departments in Ganjam district.

*327 Q.—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to lay on the table copies of annual estimates of revenue and expenditure submitted by the heads of various departments from the Ganjam district to the Board of Revenue and the other heads of departments, e.g., Chief Forest Conservator, Director of Agriculture, Director of Public Instruction, the Inspector-General of Police, the Inspector-General of Registration, the Surgeon-General, the Chief Engineers of Irrigation and Public Works Department and the High Court of Judicature at Madras (each separately) for the years of 1926–27 and also for 1927–28?

A.—Heads of departments and other estimating officers submit to the Government only consolidated estimates of revenue and expenditure for all the districts. The estimates for 1926–27 and 1927–28 submitted by the district officers in Ganjam to their heads of departments are not forwarded to the Finance Department nor are they available in the Departments of the Secretariat concerned.

Central Record Office

Research work done by the Officiating Curator.

*328 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether any publications or research work has been undertaken by the Officiating Curator; if so, what are the publications and research work so far undertaken and completed by him; and

(b) whether there is any definite programme or scheme of work chalked out for execution by the Curator; if not, why not?

A.—(a) Yes. The following reprints of the old records in the Madras Record office have been issued by the present Curator:—
(1) Diary and Consultation Book, 1704.
(2) Do. 1705.
(3) Strange's Expedition to America, 1785–87.

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Orders have been given to the Press for the issue of the following publications :—

(1) Despatches from England, 1686–1692.

(2) Do. 1721–1724.

The Curator is allowed to undertake special research work only if it does not interfere with his legitimate duties.

(b) Yes.

Appointment of a person with knowledge of Persian and Arabic in the Madras Record office.

* 329 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any post reserved in the Madras Record office for the appointment of a person knowing Persian, Arabic and Urdu ;

(b) if so, when the post fell vacant for the last occasion and who, if any, has been appointed for the post and what are his qualifications ; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Strength of the Muslims in the Madras Record office.

* 330 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what is the strength of Muslims employed in the Madras Record office ever since 1st of January 1916 up to date ; and

(b) what was the strength prior to the abovesaid date?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement [a] showing the number of Muhammadans holding permanent appointments in the Madras Record office on 31st December 1915 and on the 1st of January in each of the subsequent years is laid on the table.

Transcription and publication of old manuscripts in Urdu and Arabic languages.

* 331 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the number and the nature of old manuscripts in the Persian, Urdu and Arabic languages hitherto transcribed and published by the Madras Record office?

A.—The Persian records in the Madras Record office have not been transcribed and published. There are no Urdu or Arabic records in the Madras Record office.

Stamps

Reduction of court-fees and stamps.

* 332 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to bring in amending legislation to reduce court-fees and stamps in accordance with the wishes of the legislature ;

(b) if so, when and on what lines ; and

(c) if not, why not?

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 587 infra.